3rd December 1954]

SRI K. PARTHASARATHY :—" From the statement furnished by the Hon. Minister we are not able to find the reason why fire stations are located only in some places. May I know what is the policy of the Government in having fire stations only in municipal areas and that too only in some of them?"

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" The target is to have fire stations in all municipal areas. Even with reference to that, I think 11 municipalities have yet to be provided with fire stations. As soon as that is over, we shall take steps to provide fire stations in major panchayats."

SRI S. SWAYAMPRAKASAM :—" From the list furnished, it is seen that all the stations are located only in municipal areas. In view of the fact that combustible materials are used only in villages, will the Government consider the desirability of locating these fire stations in village parts?"

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" No, Sir. The likelihood of fire accidents occurring is more in congested urban areas. That is why it is necessary to provide fire stations in urban areas."

SRI K. PARTHASARATHY :—" Will the Hon. Minister consider locating fire stations in panchayats if they come forward to give contributions?"

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" No, Sir. The first priority is to provide fire stations in all municipal areas. There are 11 more municipal areas to be provided with fire stations. As soon as that programme is completed, we shall take up the panchayats."

Referring for adjudication certain disputes concerning hotel workers.

* 30 Q.—SRI A. RATNAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state with reference to answer to unstarred question No. 16, dated 19th March 1954, the special reasons for not referring for adjudication the 22 disputes concerning hotel workers in the City of Madras recommended by the Labour officers in the years 1950–53?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" The answer [a] is placed on the table of the House."

Construction of additional blocks in the Government Headquarters Hospital, Kozhikode.

* 28 Q.—SRI K. P. GOPALAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state the present stage of the proposal for constructing additional blocks in the Government Headquarters Hospital, Kozhikode?

[a] Printed as Appendix III on pages 98–100 infra.

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" The proposal has been deferred for the present."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" Sir, in view of the fact that so many patients are forced to lie on the floor of the hospital, will the Government be pleased to take up this matter and construct the additional blocks? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Yes, Sir, the construction of the two blocks is again under the consideration of Government."

SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR :—" Sir, is the Hon. Minister aware that even for the existing building sufficient staff has not yet been sanctioned and the hospital buildings are not being fully utilized for want of adequate staff? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Sir, employment of more staff is being sanctioned from time to time in various hospitals."

SRI P. RAMAMURTHI :—" Sir, we know the reason why the answer to this question was deferred, but may we also know the reason why the proposal was deferred? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" For reasons of finance, Sir."

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

Number of schools and colleges in South Arcot district.

1 *Q.*—SRI A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many schools are functioning in the South Arcot district;

(*b*) how many of them are run by the Government, District Board, Harijan Welfare department, municipalities and others;

(*c*) how many of them are colleges, high schools, elementary schools and training schools;

(*d*) whether midday meals are served in all the elementary schools; and

(*e*) whether the Government grant any subsidy to the district boards for the supply of midday meals to the Harijan and the backward class students?

A.—(*a*) 1931.

(*b*) & (*c*) A statement[a] is appended.

(*d*) No.

(*e*) No.

[b] Printed as Appendix IV on page 100 infra.